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Patent Docket No. 970668/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Masaki HIGURASHI et al

Serial No. : 09/964,180

Filed : November 4, 1997

For : IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS FOR  
JOINING A PLURALITY OF IMAGES  
(AS AMENDED)

Art Unit : 2612

Examiner : L. Nguyen

**LETTER TO THE OFFICIAL DRAFTSPERSON**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date noted below.

Attorney: ROBERT P. MICHAL

Dated: April 9, 2001

In the event that this Paper is late filed, and the necessary petition for extension of time is not filed concurrently herewith, please consider this as a Petition for the requisite extension of time, and to the extent not tendered by check attached hereto, authorization to charge the extension fee, or any other fee required in connection with this Paper, to Account No. 06-1378.

Attached hereto are Figs. 1 and 19-23C which have been marked in red to show the amendments being proposed thereto. Specifically, the Examiner requests the following amendments:

Fig. 1 to change "image synthesizing section 6" to  
--image joining section 6--;

Fig. 19 to change "X" of element 15 to ---+---;

Fig. 22 to label the divider with reference numeral  
--25--; and

Figs. 20, 21, 23A, 23B and 23C to be labeled as  
--PRIOR ART--.

Approved  
6/18/2001  
LN



Upon approval of the drawing amendments new formal drawings for Figs. 1 and 19-23C will be provided.

Respectfully submitted,

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Enc.- Figs. 1 and 19-23C

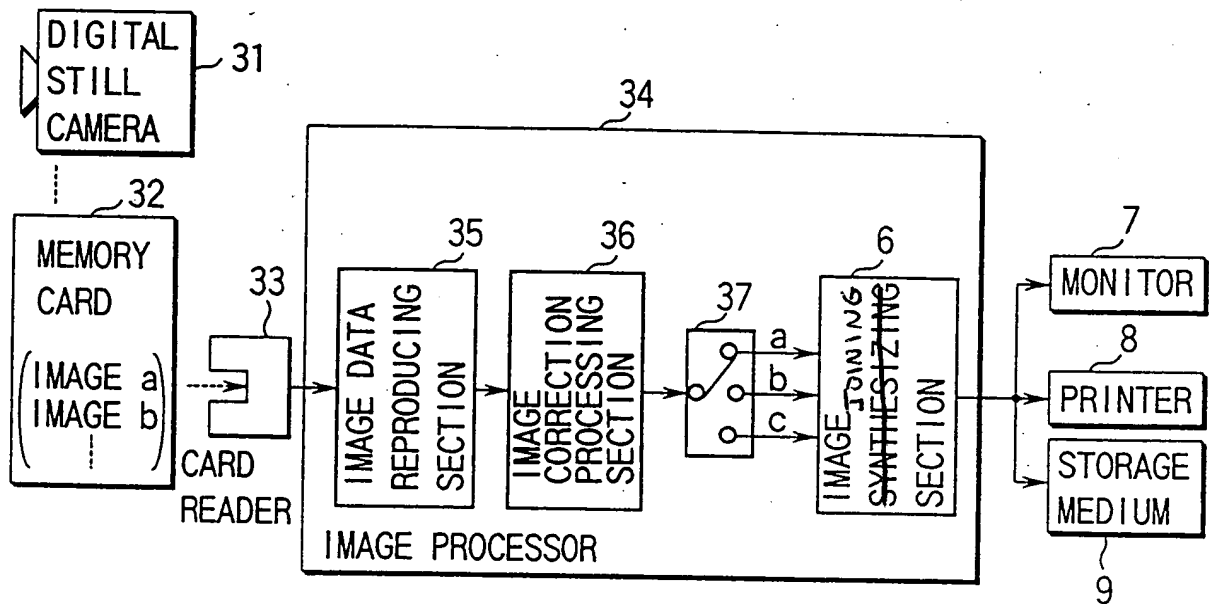


FIG. 1

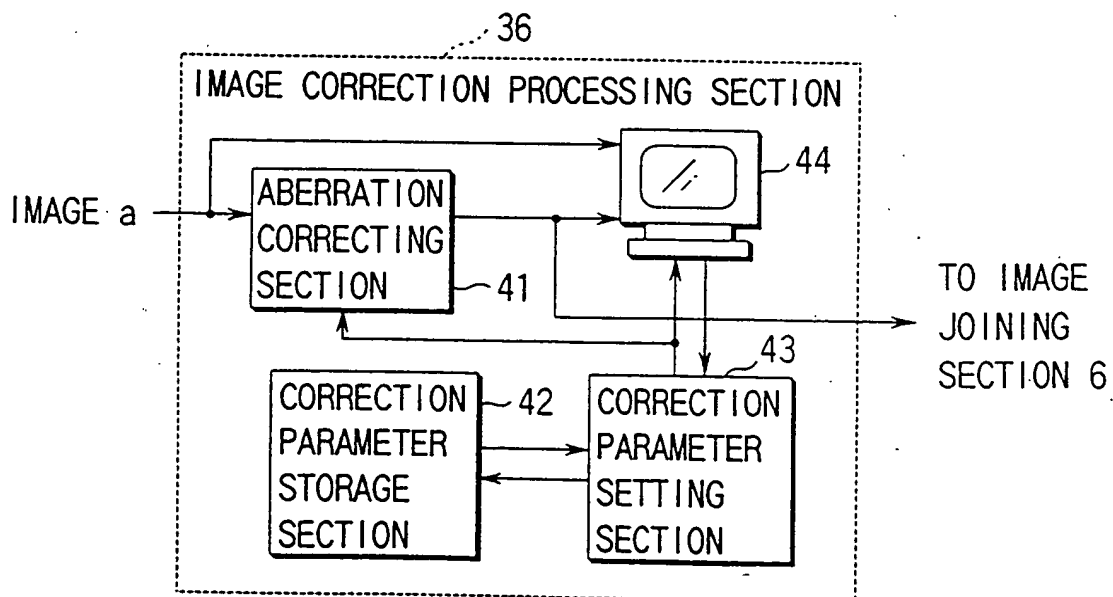


FIG. 2

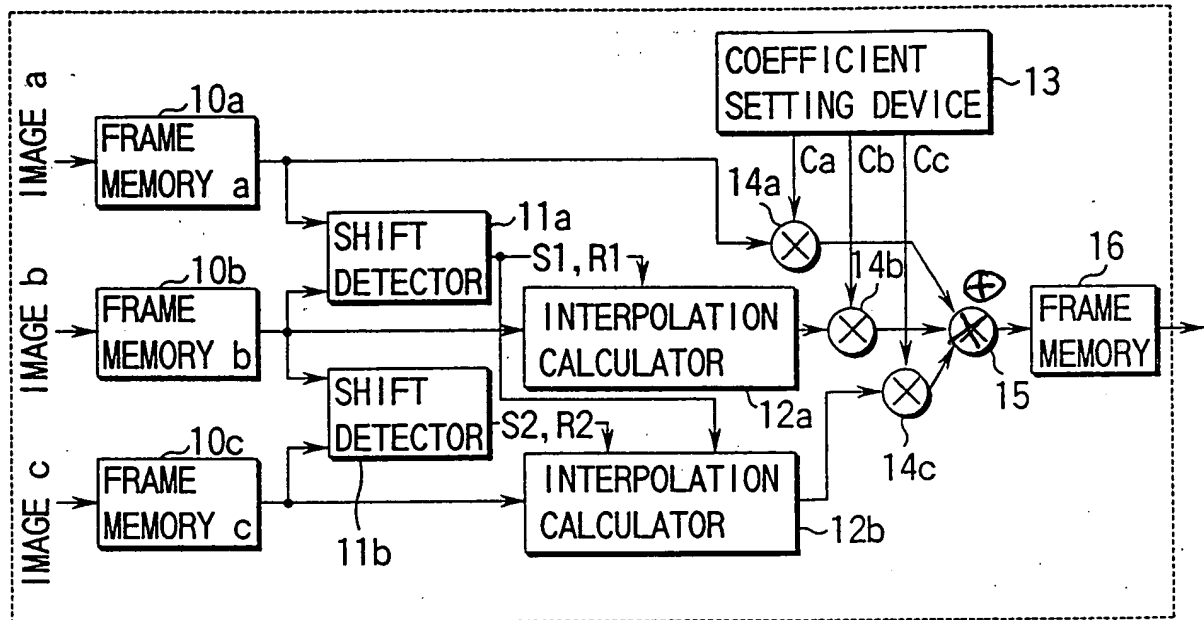


FIG. 19 PRIOR ART

6

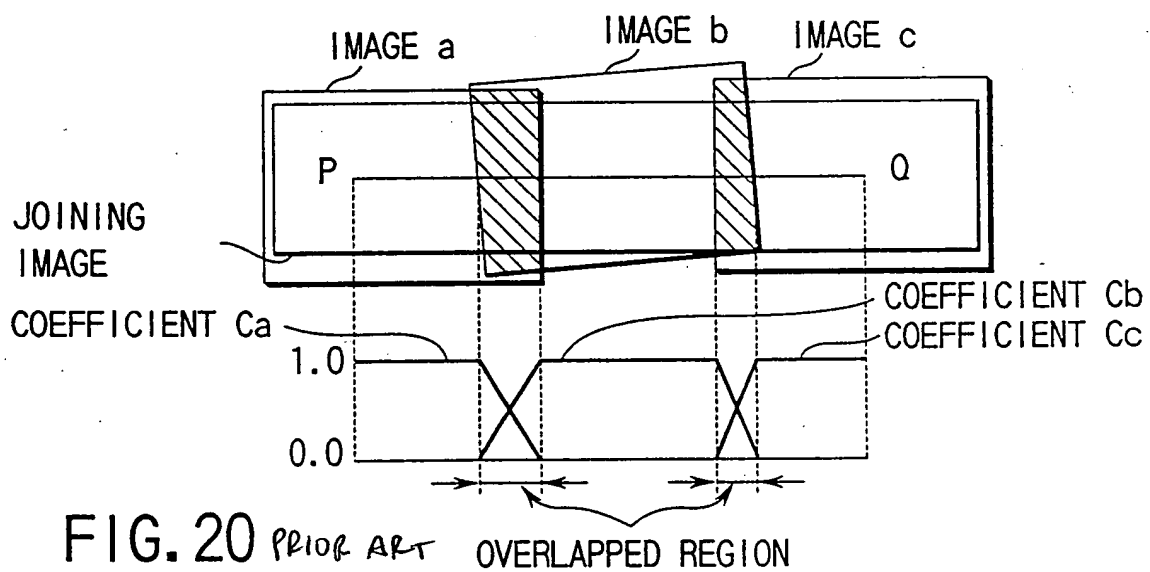


FIG. 20 PRIOR ART OVERLAPPED REGION

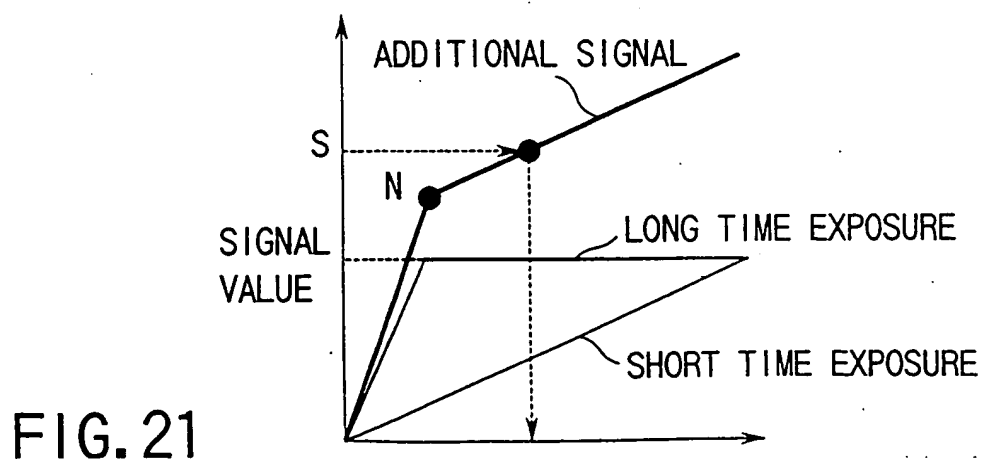


FIG. 21

